

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 05594 01 OF 02 142109Z

70

ACTION EUR-08

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4020

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5540

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USDOCOSOUTH

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5594

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCH, OCTOBER 14, 1975

BEGIN SUMMARY. AT THEIR REGULAR WEEKLY LUNCHEON MEETING ON OCTOBER 14, NATO PERMREPS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

1. STANDARDIZATION.
2. GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS LEAKS AND NEXT STEPS.
3. USSR-GDR ACCORD.
4. CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW.
5. TURKISH SENATE ELECTIONS.
6. PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN MBFR AD HOC GROUP IN VIENNA.
7. SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. END SUMMARY.

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 05594 01 OF 02 142109Z

1. STANDARDIZATION: DEAN OF PERMREPS (BELGIUM) INQUIRED WHETHER THE NAC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 22 ON STANDARDIZATION -- WHICH HE STRONGLY BELIEVES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO AS "COMMON PRODUCTION OF ARMAMENTS" -- SHOULD BE POSTPONED FOR A WEEK OR

MORE IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A MORE OR LESS DEFINITIVE STATEMENT BY FRANCE ON ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD COMMON PRODUCTION. IN RESPONSE TO MENZIES' (CANADA) COMMENT THAT THE NAC MEETING MIGHT TAKE PLACE AFTER THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE EUROGROUP, HOWEVER, DE STAERCKE UNDERLINED HIS VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING DECISIONS BY THE EUROGROUP IN ADVANCE OF THE NEXT NAC DISCUSSION ON COMMON PRODUCTION. WITH REGARD TO MENZIES' QUERY CONCERNING THE RELATIONSHIP OF AC EFFORTS ON COMMON PRODUCTION AND THE CNAD'S MEETING ON OCTOBER 29, WHERE MANY NATIONS WILL BE REPRESENTED BY SENIOR OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN ARMAMENTS RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION, DE STAERCKE NOTED THAT COMMON PRODUCTION WAS ESSENTIALLY A POLITICAL ISSUE; WHILE HE RECOGNIZED THE ENORMOUS TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES TO CNAD'S, HE SAID THAT THE "DESTINY OF COMMON PRODUCTION" RESTS IN THE EFFORTS OF NAC AND THE EUROGROUP. ACCORDINGLY, HE UNDERScoreD AGAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING OF THE FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD COMMON PRODUCTION AND AVOIDING DEFINITIVE ACTION BY THE EUROGROUP IN ADVANCE OF HEARING FRENCH VIEWS. CHARGE DE LA FERRIERE (FRANCE) DOUBTED THAT A "GLOBAL" COMMENT BY FRANCE ON COMMON PRODUCTION WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN THE NEAR TERM. WHILE FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE ROSE HAD MADE AN OPENING ON THE ISSUE, CONSIDERABLE RETICENCE PERSISTED IN PARIS AND THE ALLIES SHOULD NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH IN THE INITIAL FRENCH PRESENTATION. NONETHELESS, DE LA FERRIERE SAID, DE ROSE WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE BEHIND HIM AS A "LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT" A STRONG IMPULSE TOWARD FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN COMMON PRODUCTION. US CHARGE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF MOVING AHEAD AS SWIFTLY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE STANDARDIZATION ENDEAVOR IN NATO; NOT ONLY WAS THE US PREPARED TO PROCEED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE IN THIS SPHERE, WHICH IS SO IMPORTANT FOR ACHIEVING COST EFFECTIVENESS AND OTHER BENEFITS, BUT ALSO ALLIED MINISTERS IN DECEMBER SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO REFLECT IN THEIR COMMUNIQUE A PROGRESS REPORT ON ALLIED EFFORTS. MOREOVER, US CHARGE SAID, THE COMPLEX AND DELICATELY BALANCED ISSUES ENGAGED IN STANDARDIZATION PROBABLY CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSED IN THE WORK OF THE PROPOSED STEERING COMMITTEE AS IT STRIVES TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES, THE FIRST TASK ENVISAGED FOR THE GROUP

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 05594 01 OF 02 142109Z

BY THE US. IN RESPONSE TO MENZIES' REQUEST, US CHARGE INDICATED THAT US IMPETUS TOWARD STANDARDIZATION DERIVES FROM THE STRONG INTEREST OF THE US ADMINISTRATION, AS REFLECTED IN THE STATEMENTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. AWARENESS IS GROWING, IN CONGRESSIONAL, LABOR AND BUSINESS CIRCLES, THAT MORE EQUITABLE POLICIES ARE NEEDED WITH REGARD TO ARMS PROCUREMENT THAT WOULD YIELD TO ALL INVOLVED A FAIR SHARE OF POTENTIAL ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE BENEFITS OF STANDARDIZATION. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, US CHARGE SAID, THE ALLIES SHOULD SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY THAT SEEMS TO EXIST FOR REACHING AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES THAT WILL REFLECT THE COMMON WILL OF ALL ALLIES TO PROGRESS IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA. IT WAS LEFT THAT, BARRING AN UNLIKELY OBJECTION BY ANY, NAC DISCUSSION OF STANDARDIZATION

WILL TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 22.

2. GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS: THEODOROPOULOS (GREECE) OPENED AN EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF PRESS LEAKS BY COMPLAINING ABOUT THE EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE THAT FOLLOWED HIS PRESENTATION IN NAC OCTOBER 9 ON GREECE-NATO RELATIONS (SEE ALSO SEPTEL USNATO 5574 (NOTAL)). DE STAERCKE URGED THAT THE INFECTION BE ISOLATED BY REDUCING THE NUMBERS ADMITTED TO NAC AND DPC MEETINGS. ERALP (TURKEY) BELIEVED THAT LIMITING ATTENDANCE TO AMBASSADORS PLUS ONE WOULD NOT HELP, SINCE MOST PERMREPS NEEDED TECHNICAL ADVICE AND LIMITING ATTENDANCE WOULD NOT STEM LEAKS IN CAPITALS. FOLLOWING FURTHER DISCUSSION, A MAJORITY INCLINED TO FAVOR LIMITED ATTENDANCE, ESPECIALLY AFTER SEVERAL HAD POINTED OUT THAT FEW, IF ANY, LEAKS HAVE COME FROM DISCUSSIONS LIMITED TO PERMREPS OR PERMREPS PLUS ONE OR TWO. CHARGE FERRETTI (ITALY) NOTED THAT, WHEN POLAD'S BANISH INTERPRETERS AND LOWER-LEVELS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, LEAKS NEVER OCCUR FROM THEIR DISCUSSIONS. THE UPSHOT WAS SUMMARIZED BY DE STAERCKE, WHO SUGGESTED THAT (A) FIRST TWO OR THREE DPC SESSIONS TO DISCUSS GREEK PROPOSALS INVOLVE STRICTLY LIMITED ATTENDANCE, (B) OPEN-ENDED AD HOC GROUP PROPOSED TO HANDLE STAFF TASKS ASSOCIATED WITH PERMRPES FOR GREECE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS BE LIMITED TO A SMALL NUMBER FROM EACH DELEGATION WISHING TO PARTICIPATE, AND (C) THOUGH RESTRICTED IN ATTENDANCE, MEETINGS WOULD BE FORMAL GATHERINGS AND INVOLVE PREPARATION OF MINUTES, A POINT ON WHICH ERALP INSISTED.

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 05594 02 OF 02 142133Z

70

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5541

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USNMR SHAPE

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USCINCEUR

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 5594

LIMDIS

3. USSR-GDR ACCORD: DE STAERCKE URGED THAT QUADRIpartite POWERS APPRISES THE OTHER 11 ALLIES OF THEIR VIEWS TOWARD THE AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY THE USSR AND THE GDR DURING HONECKER'S RECENT VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION. HE COMPLAINED THAT, SINCE THE ALLIED SUMMIT LAST SUMMER, ALLIED CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN FLAGGING, THOUGH HE LAUDED THE US FOR ITS FORTHCOMING APPROACH TO CONSULTATIONS IN NATO AND SUGGESTED THAT, IF THE OTHER ALLIED DID NOT RECIPROCATE, THE US MIGHT ITSELF LOSE INTEREST IN NATO AS A FORUM FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS. ERALP NOTED THE ABSENCE IN THE USSR-GDR AGREEMENT OF ANY REFERENCE TO "THE PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE PEOPLES OF GERMANY," AND REMARKED THAT THE REFERENCE TO INVIOlABILITY OF FRONTIERS WAS NOT PLACED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE FOUR POWERS AND THEIR RIGHTS WERE NOT MENTIONED. KRAPF (FRG)

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 05594 02 OF 02 142133Z

SAID THAT THE ANALYSES AVAILABLE TO HIM WERE IMCOMPLETE, AND HE WAS JOINED BY THE US, UK AND FRENCH CHARGES IN INDICATING THAT THEY WOULD REPORT THE INTEREST OF THE OTHERS IN AN EARLY AUTHORITYATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE AGREEMENT. COMMENT: WE WOULD WELCOME GUIDANCE SOONEST FOR USE IN NAC OR POLAD DISCUSSION OF THE USSR-GDR AGREEMENT. ALLIES WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE COORDINATED QUADRIpartite ANALYSIS AND COMMENTS, BUT, IN THIS INSTANCE, IF AN EARLY QUADRIpartite CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS IS NOT FEASIBLE, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR THE FOUR TO PROVIDE THEIR INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS TO THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END COMMENT.

WITH REGARD TO FORTHCOMING VISIT BY PERMREPS AND LUNS TO BERLIN, FRG PERMREP KRAPF, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION BY DE STAERCKE, SAID THAT IT WAS CONTEMPLATED THAT PERMREPS WOULD VISIT BERLIN IN PRIVATE CAPACITY. LUNS' VISIT, HOWEVER, PRESENTED CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES THAT HE WISHED TO DISCUSS WITH LUNS ON THE LATTER'S RETURN OCTOBER 15. KRAPF AFFIRMED THAT NO NATO SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE PAST HAD ACCOMPANIED A GROUP OF PERMREPS TO BERLIN. TO MENZIES' QUESTION WHETHER LUNS OR THE PERMREPS WOULD HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE, KRAPF REPLIED, "CERTAINLY NOT; IT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL VISIT."

4. CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW: HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) CALLED FOR INSCRIPTION OF MATTERS RELATED TO THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW ON AN EARLY NAC OR POLAD'S AGENDA. FERRETTI SUMMARIZED RECENT NATO DISARMAMENTS EXPERTS DISCUSSIONS ON THIS TOPIC (USNATO 5437) AND ACTING SYG PANSA PROMISED TO HAVE THE MATTER RAISED AGAIN IN POLADS.

5. TURKISH SENATE ELECTIONS: ERALP REPORTED GAINS BY THE TWO

MAJOR PARTIES TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE SMALLER ONES IN THE RECENT ELECTIONS TO THE TURKISH SENATE. THEIR PRINCIPAL EFFECT, HE SAID, COULD "JUST POSSIBLY BE THAT THE FANATICAL WINGS OF THE PARTIES MAY HAVE BEEN WEAKENED TO THE EXTENT THAT DEMIREL COULD TAKE COURAGEOUS ACTION" WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS AND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS GENERALLY.

6. PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN MBFR AD HOC GROUP IN VIENNA:
DE STAERCKE AND HARTOGH EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE INFLEXIBLE APPROACH BEING TAKEN BY INTERNATIONAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 05594 02 OF 02 142133Z

IN VIENNA WITH REGARD TO PARTICIPATION BY PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR CONDE IN THE AD HOC GROUP. HARTOGH NOTED THAT REPORTS HE RECEIVED FROM THE NETHERLANDS MBFR DELEGATION INDICATED THAT CONDE WAS READY TO ABSTAIN FROM REGULAR ATTENDANCE; HOWEVER, IF HE WERE FORMALLY REQUESTED TO STAY AWAY, HE HAD SAID THAT HE WOULD REFUSE TO AGREE. PERHAPS, SAID HARTOGH, INTERNATIONAL STAFF REP COHEN WAS BEING TOO FORMALISTIC IN HIS APPROACH. DE STAERCKE ASKED PANSA TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION AND TO INSTRUCT INTERNATIONAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES TO EMULATE THE PROCEDURE ADOPTED AT BRUSSELS AND TO AVOID A SITUATION WHERE CONDE WERE FORCED INTO A CORNER. SVART (DENMARK) JOINED KRAPF IN URGING THAT THE APPROACH IN VIENNA APPROXIMATE THAT IN BRUSSELS AND THAT NO EFFORT BE MADE TO PRESS CONDE, A SQUARE PEG, INTO A ROUND HOLE. US CHARGE DREW ON PARA 4 OF STATE 241611 TO EXPLAIN APPROACH BEING TAKEN BY USDEL MBFR VIENNA, THAT ACCORDED FULLY WITH PERMREP CONSENSUS, AND CHARGE LOGAN (UK) SUGGESTED THAT ONLY MISSING ELEMENT APPEARED TO BE INSTRUCTIONS FROM LUNS TO INTERNATIONAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES IN VIENNA WITH REGARD TO DESIRABLE ARRANGEMENTS (SEE SEPTTEL: NOTAL).

7. SITUATION IN PORTUGAL: DE FREITAS CRUZ (PORTUGAL) COMMENTED GLOOMILY ON UNPREDICTABLE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. KRAPF STATED THAT FRG DEFMIN LEBER HAD BEEN RECEIVED ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO LISBON BY SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUNTIONARY COUNCIL, INCLUDING CARVALHO AND ROSA COUTINHO. HIS DISCUSSIONS HAD DEALT MAINLY WITH ECONOMIC MATTERS. LEBER'S NET IMPRESSION, KRAPF SAID, WAS THAT WHOEVER WANTED TO PICK UP POWER COULD HAVE IT, IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. DE FREITAS CRUZ REMARKED ON THE GRATIFICATION OF HIS AUTHORITIES AT THE RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY TO ANTUNES ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE US. ALSO, LISBON WELCOMED THE CURRENT ATTITUDE OF THE NINE. ANTUNES, DE FREITAS CRUZ SAID, HAD MADE CLEAR PORTUGAL'S INTENTION TO REMAIN IN NATO. STREATOR

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